Food problem.

15. *MR. P. M. VARGHESE (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken to meet the food problem with the natural resources within the State itself?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: 1. Procurement, stocking and State-wide rationing of foodgrains and control of their prices etc.

2. Opening of Departmental Manure Depots and stocking manures for sale to ryots at cost price and on crop loan basis with a view to increasing crop yield.

3. Manufacture of compost manure with town refuse and night-soil and with leaf-mould obtained from Reserve Forest areas for augmenting the local production of manure.

4. Conversion of single crop paddy lands in North Travancore into double crop lands under the Lift Irrigation Scheme.

5. Leasing out of lands from the Forest Reserves for the cultivation of paddy.

6. Cultivation of Vegetables on water free areas in the irrigation tanks.

7. Conduct of cultural demonstrations on ryots' lands to illustrate the possibilities of augmenting grain yield by using better manures, better seeds and better implements.

8. Carrying on of vigorous propaganda by the Officers of the Agricultural Department for putting every bit of available land under some food crop or other.

Paddy purchase scheme.

16. *MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the major portion of the people of the taluks of Meenachil and Todupuzha subsist on paddy received from outside their taluks; and

(*b*) if so, whether they will exempt those people from the present paddy purchase scheme?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) Yes.
(*b*) *No.*

MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH: മീനച്ചിൽ തൊടുപുഴ എന്നീ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ നിവസിക്കുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അവരുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിലേക്കുള്ള നെല്ലു് തികയുന്നില്ല എന്ന ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ബോദ്ധ്യമായിരിക്കെ അവരിൽനിന്നും നെല്ലു് എടുക്കണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: അങ്ങിനെ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

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MR. CHAZHIKKATTU JOSEPH : ഒരു കൊല്ലത്തിൽ മൂന്നു മാസത്തെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുപോലും നെല്ലു കിട്ടാത്ത ആളുകളുടെ പക്കൽനിന്നും നെല്ലെടുത്തിട്ടു അവർ റേഷൻ വാങ്ങിച്ചുകൊള്ളണമെന്നാണോ ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : അതെ.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. The honourable member shall take his seats. When the president is on his legs, the honourable members must be seated. Also when any honourable member on behalf of the Government is speaking, the other honourable members must be seated. When any of the other honourable members is speaking, the members of the Government will be seated.

Distribution of food materials.

17. *MR. K. BALAKRISHNA MENON (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether complaint has been received from any person by any authority regarding the distribution of unwholesome food materials and if the answer is in the affirmative what measures have been taken by the Government in the matter ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes; stringent instructions have been issued to the Depot Officers not to distribute materials which may have become unfit for human consumption.

MR. K. BALAKRISHNA MENON : May I know what punishment has been meted out to those persons who were at fault ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : They have been severely warned and given strict instructions that only what is fit for human consumption should be distributed.

Food Grains.

18. *MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the amount spent by Government in purchasing food grains ; and

(*b*) the amount realised on sale of food grains ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (*a*) Rs. 1313·62 lakhs (till the end of 11/1119.)

(*b*) Rs. 786·98 lakhs (till the end of 11/1119.)

Tiruvalla Taluk Food Advisory Committee.

19. *MR. K. A. MATHEW : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the functions expected to be performed by the Tiruvalla Taluk Food Advisory Committee ; and

(*b*) whether the members of the Committee are elected representatives from the Pakuthi Committees or are they nominated by the Government ?

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